

LABOR AND INDUSTRY

The Price of Piety.

"John Dives, man, and have you heard what the preacher said of you, intent your saintly character to smother?"

"Aye, that I have," John Dives said, "but the like no more he'll do, for I have bought the preacher and his church!"

"John Dives, man, and have you heard how the teacher's spoken out against the reign of money and misrule?"

"True, true, he did," John Dives said, "but he's pledged no more to shout, for I have bought the teacher and his school."

"John Dives, man, and did you hear the legislators say they'd check the sleek, dishonest things you do?"

"I did," said John, "and they reformed without the least delay, for I have bought the legislature, too."

"My heart is pure," John Dives said, "for the coin can do no wrong; all things are on the market for the buying."

"I've the keys to Earth and Heaven, which I purchased for a song—I can get the keys to Hades without trying."

—Wallace Irwin.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.

The headquarters of the American Labor Union have been removed from Butte, Mont., to Chicago.

A state federation of labor was formed at Augusta, Maine, through a delegate convention last week.

Fifty labor unions have been formed in Porto Rico since the island became a possession of the United States.

President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor will deliver the Labor day address at Utica, N. Y., this year.

Rival unions of window glass workers are expected to amalgamate at a meeting planned to be held in Cleveland this month.

Steel and copper die cutters met in New York, July 4, formed a union and made application for a charter to the American Federation of Labor.

The supreme court of West Virginia has issued an injunction against the United Mine Workers of America, forbidding them from organizing the mine workers of that state.

J. E. Bruner of Cincinnati, vice president of the International Union of Steam Engineers, has been selected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of President Patrick McMahon.

The twenty-sixth annual convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor has been called to meet in the assembly chamber, in the capitol building at Trenton, Monday, Aug. 15.

The United Mine Workers of America have chartered their first union in Canada. At a recent meeting of the miners in Fernie, B. C., 214 men formed a union and applied for a charter.

The essays on "The Union Label," for which the American Federationist offered a prize, are to be printed in pamphlet form and distributed as campaign literature. The three prize essays are printed in the current issue of the Federationist.

Phillip Murphy, a member of the Chicago Beef Butchers' union, won the world's championship in a beef killing and dressing contest held at Springfield July 4. He killed and dressed the animal ready for market in four minutes and sixteen seconds.

Among the passengers killed on the Wabash train which was wrecked at Vashfield, Ill., July 3, was Harry M. Dietrich, a former representative of the Allied Metal Mechanics, and Charles Ward, the first president of the Chicago and Blue Island street car men's union.

An arrangement has been made under which such employees of the United States navy yards as can be relieved of work on Saturday afternoons during July, August and September will be given half-holidays, and those

who cannot be spared will be given the half-holidays as the work in hand permits.

The new barber law adopted by the legislature of Maryland last winter and which became effective July 1, is very stringent. Besides requiring that all barbers must pass an examination before a state board, a number of rules must be observed, the enforcement of which is made the duty of inspectors.

Two new labor publications have made their appearance. The first is the Journal of the International Hod Carriers and Building Laborers' Union and is published in Chicago under the direction of H. A. Stemburgh, the secretary, as editor. The other is the Union Herald, and is published in Washington, D. C.

The Socialist labor party has placed a ticket in the field for the coming presidential election. Charles H. Corrigan, a member of the Syracuse, N. Y., Typographical union, has been named for president of the United States, and William W. Cox, a union coal miner at Collinsville, Ill., is the vice presidential candidate.

The coal operators in the Kanawha (W. Va.) coal fields have entered a combination known as the Kanawha Coal association, to fight the demands made by the United Mineworkers. Already sixty-seven have signed the agreement, and about thirty others are expected to join within the next two or three days.

Secretary Edward Nockels of the Chicago Federation of Labor expects to send a trainload of at least 600 and probably 700 delegates to the Victor, Col., meeting in August. He expects the country at large to double that number, and that 1,000 delegates from union central bodies will be in the great meeting which investigates the Colorado troubles.

The Cigarmakers' International union, which recently celebrated its fortieth anniversary, is agitating the question of a superannuation or old age pension for its members. The union has already the most extended chain of benefits of any labor organization in the country, but its leaders believe the system cannot be complete without the old age pension feature.

Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, was released from custody by Sheriff Bell of Teller county, Colorado, after furnishing bonds for \$10,000 on the charges of murder and inciting riot filed against him at Cripple Creek. Bonds were provided by a guarantee company. Moyer has been a prisoner 103 days and during the greater portion of that time was confined in the bull pen at Telluride on the plea of "military necessity."

W. T. French, president of the San Francisco (Cal.) Typographical Union, has filed a suit in San Francisco restraining the Citizens' Alliance of that city from putting an emblem on its printed matter which is a facsimile of that of the printing trades union, and is said to be an infringement on the design, and to be done for the purpose of deceiving people into believing that the printing was done under union conditions. A temporary injunction has been granted forbidding its further use until heard in court.

Secretary McKee has issued the call for the eighth annual convention of the International Union of Steam Engineers, to meet in Omaha Sept. 12. There being considerable business to come before the meeting, Secretary McKee suggests that delegates should come prepared for at least a ten days' stay. "Owing to the growth of the organization, new conditions surround us and new problems have to be met

and contended with," the call reads, and therefore "local unions are urged to be represented by their full quota of delegates."

The executive council of the American Federation of Labor has issued an appeal to all international unions and central labor bodies in the country to assist financially the miners in Colorado who are fighting to establish an eight-hour day. In the leading editorial in the current issue of the American Federationist, Editor Samuel Gompers says that, while the Western Federation of Miners has adopted certain policies that run counter to those advocated by the American Federation of Labor, there cannot and should not be two kinds of justice in this country.

The 560 Boston journeymen painters who were on strike have gone back to work under the old agreement, the strike having been declared off. The strike lasted about five and a half weeks, about 1,500 men going out. The men go back with the full understanding that the old working rules agreement is to be operative, this being conceded by the employers. One of the most satisfactory features of the strike to the union is the fact that only twenty-two men out of a total of 2,200 deserted at any time, while the union increased its membership about 400 while the strike lasted.

In a recent bulletin issued by the Department of Labor at Washington, A. Maurice Low has an interesting article on British labor unions. Mr. Low says there are nearly 2,000,000 members of labor unions in Great Britain, and they have in their treasuries the sum of \$18,330,000. Walking delegates are practically unknown in England, says the report. The governing power is in the hands of an executive committee. It is impossible for any one man to order a strike. The older unions, that have several hundred thousand dollars in their treasuries, realize the danger of putting too much power in the hands of their officers. The unions are becoming more democratic.

The Illinois Steel Company has posted notices to the effect that existing wage agreements with the tonnage men will expire Sept. 30. This is the ninety day notice required by either side if termination of the contracts is desired. Some of the men fear the action means a reduction in wages, but the move is generally regarded as a measure to place the company in a position to ask the men to accept a reduction if the condition of the business necessitates such a request. The agreements which will terminate are individual ones, signed by the men in 1901 after the termination of the Amalgamated strike and the giving up of the Joliet charters in that organization.

Carroll D. Wright, as umpire in disputes between Pennsylvania coal mine operators and coal miners, made a decision which may avert a strike of 16,000 miners in the Scranton district. The umpire's decision was on the clause in the anthracite award relative to the employment and payment of the check weighing and check docking bosses in favor of the union miners. Three coal companies had refused to deduct the wages of these bosses from the wages of the miners unless each miner made a personal assignment of the portion of his earnings necessary to make up the wages of the bosses. The union workers were willing to make this assignment, but were afraid that non-union men were not, and that this division would prevent the proper collection of the wages. President Nichols thereupon, after postponing the threatened strike, submitted the question to Umpire Wright. Mr. Wright sustains the companies and declares they have a perfect right to insist upon a personal assignment. He also sustains the miners by declaring that where a majority of the men wish the collection, it is mandatory upon the operators to make the wage collection. He then clinches the decision in favor of the miners by declaring that the refusal of any miner to make this assignment shall be considered just cause for a discharge.



Utopia.

A field of clover,
Red blooms all over—
I know that scent!
The bee, the rover,
He loves this clover,
And is content!

I love the clover,
With blooms all over,
As does the bee!
But I, a rover,
Am far from clover,
Upon the sea!

Ah, bee! in clover,
You're ten times over
Wiser than I!
You sing in clover—
I fret, a rover,
And yearn and sigh!

Oh, field of clover,
With blooms all over,
I swear—at sea—
When I, the rover,
Have been all over,
I'll come to thee!
Ah, field of clover,
I'll roll all over,
Amid thy bloom!
No more a rover,
I'll live in clover,
And sweet perfume!

Somehow the news of approaching nuptials always brings a glow to the heart. Marriage, we are told, is a holy and a ticklish state of servitude, but the continued practice of marriage leads to the conclusion that few have compunctions against their unholliness and all decide they will stand for the tickling if they "holler their heads off," as the uncouth slangist says. The poet insists that marriages are made in heaven, but according to an Iowa exchange, they are made in a livery rig. The editor of the Hickory Hollow Bee says: "George Sampson has been seen with a livery rig big enough for two, driving toward Scottsbluff. Another wedding looked for."

It makes one homesick to read the country papers in June. By this vehicle of news at this time we learn that "the excitement incidental to high school commencement is past" and that now "the Tribune expects to see our citizens take more interest in village improvements." Ah, days of Cocagne! when "graduatins" had the whole town by the ears! And that fateful night, how we settled the momentous questions of the world! But come to think about it, they didn't stay settled!

In Sunday school we were taught that it pays to get religion before the cyclone strikes. Perils lie all about us, and every day's delay jeopardizes our chances for passing under the wire while St. Peter is still in the judges' stand. Incidents illustrating narrow escapes of men that have tarried by the wayside to scoff, are legion, but one of exceptional interest comes from the west where a Colorado editor says: "A brick fell from a scaffold on the Simpson building Saturday. Col. Hank Brown was in its line of descent. The brick landed on Col. Hank's head and he saw the entire starry firmament in all its splendor. The brick was broken and a severe cut on the topknot was left Hank as a souvenir."

Success and Luck.

Success was an earnest boy,
With dinner pail and spade;
While Luck hung about the town
Where bottle pool was played!

Success was at work each day
From daylight until dark;
But Luck with one eye alert
Lolled 'round the city park!

Ah, me! this was long ago:
A score of years or more—
Success? Oh, he's working yet!
And Luck? Hard luck! He's sore!

It frequently happens that the fellow who took so much delight in rocking the boat, refuses absolutely to rock the cradle.

If the czar's troops at Port Arthur have the smallpox, why don't they break out? Ouch! Lemme alone!